

***Remarks***

Reconsideration of this Application is respectfully requested. Claims 1, 3-8, 14-19, 36-37, 59, 61-64, and 70-75 are active in the application, with claims 1 and 59 being the independent claims. Claims 1 and 59 have been amended. Support for this amendment is found, *inter alia*, at specification page 19, lines 18-24.

Applicants reserve the right to file one or more continuation or divisional applications directed to the canceled subject matter. Based on the above amendments and the following remarks, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider all outstanding objections and rejections and that they be withdrawn.

***The Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph***

At office action page 2, claims 15 and 71 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicant regards as the invention. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection and have the following remarks to supplement the amendment filed June 14, 2006.

Applicants have amended claims 1 and 59 to refer to "RGD-containing peptides capable of modifying integrin adhesion." Applicants respectfully assert that this amendment addressed the Examiner's concern that the claims include all peptides with an RGD sequence. Accordingly, this rejection can be withdrawn.

***The Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) and 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)***

In the advisory action, the Examiner states that Applicants provide no specific reasoning for the traversal of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) and 35 U.S.C. §

103(a). Further to Applicant's arguments filed June 14, 2006, Applicants add the following comments and reasons for traversal.

Beta-amyloid was not intended as an integrin antagonist. Applicants include beta-amyloid in the assay but it is added to the culture only to show that the uptake of amyloid is increased by modulation of integrins. Applicants do not intend beta-amyloid itself to be an integrin antagonist; nor is it an integrin antagonist. The instant invention is a method to modulate integrins and thereby increase uptake of exogenously applied amyloid. The integrins are modulated by substances other than amyloid- $\beta$  - and, as a result, the uptake of amyloid- $\beta$  is increased. Taking amyloid- $\beta$  out of the list of antagonists was simply to correct the mistake that it was in that list in the first place.

Therefore, the Examiner errs, for example, at page 5 of the final office action, in stating "prior to exposure to an integrin antagonist (i.e. amyloid- $\beta$ ) . . . " because amyloid- $\beta$  is NOT an integrin antagonist. The Examiner makes additional similar statements referring to amyloid- $\beta$  being an integrin antagonist, on page 6 of the final office action). Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections, *inter alia*, because of this mistake. Accordingly, *prima facie* obviousness is not established and this rejection may be withdrawn.

### ***Conclusion***

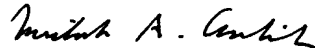
All of the stated grounds of objection and rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider all presently outstanding objections and rejections and that they be withdrawn. Applicants believe that a full and complete reply has been made to the

outstanding Office Action and, as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

Prompt and favorable consideration of this Amendment and Reply is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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